

VILLAGE OF JEMEZ SPRINGS Municipal Office

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BOB WILSON
Trustee
MANOLITO SANCHEZ
Trustee
DR. JULIETTE SWEET
Trustee

MINUTES FOR THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING: JANUARY 16, 2019 AT 6:00 P.M. IN THE LIBRARY CONFERENCE ROOM

- 1. Call to Order-The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Sweet, Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan, Trustees Wilson, Sanchez and Sweet, Clerk/Treasurer Yvonne Dickey, Police Chief Felix Nunez, and Heather Stacey and Jim McCue from the Giggling Springs.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance-Mayor Sweet led the Pledge.
- 3. Approval of Agenda-Trustee Wilson moved that the agenda be approved as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan seconded, and the agenda was unanimously approved.
- 4. Approval of Minutes from 12/19/18 Meeting-Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan moved that the minutes be approved as written. Trustee Sanchez seconded and the minutes were approved with no opposition.
- 5. Reports
 - a. Maintenance-Submitted.
 - b. Bath House-Submitted. Trustee Wilson noted that revenues were about \$12,000-way down from the previous year and the previous month. He asked whether anyone knew why. Ms. Dickey explained that it looks like people didn't get as many services as they have in the past, although gift shop sales were comparable to previous periods. There may be several causes: the building was in extremely shabby condition, customer service is poor when Ms. Lovato is not present to supervise (often times employees are not up front, so when customers come in there is nobody to help them, attendants have been heard using phrases like "Are you gonna soak or what?", if customers hear attendants arguing over who is going to sanitize the tub next to them, they wonder whether tubs get cleaned at all, etc.), and winter is a slow time anyway. The Bath House has faced several challenges this fiscal year, including forest closures and the hot spring sealing up. The reality is that the Bath House may not reach their budget performance goals this Fiscal Year because of some factors beyond their

control. Mayor Sweet talked more about the shabby condition of the bath house, and how we are renovating with the grant money. He explained that in mid-January the Bath House closed for renovation which will include a major face-lift to the interior, resurfacing the tubs, working on HVAC, and re-roofing the entire building. Trustee Wilson revisited online reservations as a potential way to boost revenue, and Mayor Sweet affirmed that he would discuss this with Ms. Lovato and implement the system, which will work with Square POS. Ms. Stacey suggested looking into customer service classes offered by Visit ABQ. Mayor Sweet and Ms. Dickey will follow up with Ms. Lovato to improve those factors which are in our control. This, combined with the improvements to the building, will hopefully get revenues back where they should be.

- c. Library-Submitted.
- d. Court-Submitted.
- e. Wastewater-Submitted.
- f. Police Chief-Submitted. Chief Nunez explained that December was a very eventful month. He acknowledged Officer Donally, explaining that she has been instrumental in preparing the volumes of paperwork associated with the Strain case. The case is ongoing. On a positive note, Chief Nunez reported that he will testify before the Legislature in the near future to lobby for a better LEPF distribution system. A capital outlay request was also submitted for JSPD to obtain two new police vehicles.
- g. P & Z Commission-Not Submitted.
- h. Volunteer Fire Department-Submitted.
- i. Lodgers' Tax Advisory Board-Not Submitted.
- 6. Clerk/Treasurer's Report-Ms. Dickey explained that most revenue and expense items are close to 50% of their budget, which is exactly where they should be for this time of year. The Police Department is over budget because of the exorbitant insurance rates. Property tax revenues will begin to come in now that it is January, and there are only a few short weeks until we receive small cities assistance, so overall, finances are as they should be.
- 7. Discuss fees for use of Leyba Land-Ms. Dickey told the council she did not have time to research this item. Consensus was to revisit this item at the next council meeting.
- 8. Resolution 2019-01 Adjusting the Budget-Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan moved that the Resolution adjusting the budget be approved and adopted. Trustee Sanchez seconded, and the resolution was unanimously approved.
- 9. Mayor's Report
 - a. Mayor Sweet-Mayor Sweet told the council that he attended a second recap meeting about Light Among the Ruins with Matt Barbour. One

possible solution to the crowding is to limit ticket sales to 2,500 per night and consider making the event two nights long. This may alleviate some of the extreme crowding. Mayor Sweet is also working with several groups to try to obtain the 2,100 acre "Ranch of the Spirit" land from the Paracletes. This land could be used for hiking and mountain bike trails and offer residents and visitors a place to experience our surroundings even if the forest is closed. The process may take up to two years or more, and Mayor Sweet will keep the council abreast of developments. The bridge replacement project near the Forest Service building will begin next month. Finally, Mayor Sweet suggested that perhaps in place of Cabin Fever, we could have a grand re-opening gala for the Bath House.

- b. Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan-Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan noted that he is aware that part of the Denver Post article (resulting from the FAM tour Ms. Asmus-Otero organized) about Jemez Springs is now in a national publication!
- C. Trustee Wilson-Trustee Wilson noted that the water line will be moved in time for the bridge project to begin. He also explained that he would like to revisit seeding the Leyba Land.
- d. Trustee Sanchez-Trustee Sanchez had nothing to report.
- e. Trustee Sweet-Trustee Sweet invited the council to come out and show support for "The Run", an event to raise awareness and support for Senate Bill 135 which would improve New Mexicans' access to health care by allowing holistic doctors to provide primary care services. Dr. Sweet will also be testifying before the legislature for this cause.
- 10. Adjourn-At 7:55 p.m. Trustee Sanchez moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mayor Pro-Tem Ryan seconded, and the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Approved at the regular meeting of the Village Council February 20, 2019:

Roger Sweet, Mayor

Attest:

Yvonne lickey, Clerk/Treasure